

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11505 100102Z
ACTION INT-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /018 W
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P R 091545Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 790
INFO AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

UNCLAS MOSCOW 11505

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, TGEN, ELAB, UR, US
SUBJECT: MESA STUDY TEAM VISIT

REFS: A. STATE 183700 NOTAL, B. STATE 133582,
C. MOSCOW 11297 NOTAL

SUMMARY: CHANGE IN PLANNED ARRIVAL TIME FOR MESA TEAM HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO COAL MINISTRY, WHICH SAYS IT CANT WORK WITH TEAM PRIOR TO AUGUST 29 AND PREFERS ARRIVAL NOT EARLIER THAN ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED AUGUST 27. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS ARRIVAL NOT EARLIER THAN AUGUST 26. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST. END SUMMARY.

1. LATEST TELEGRAM FROM MESA (REF A) SPEAKS OF STUDY TEAM ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 24, WHEREAS EARLIER INFORMATION (REF B) WAS IN TERMS OF ARRIVAL ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 27. THE LATTER IS WHAT WAS ORIGINALLY CONVEYED TO USSR COAL MINISTRY AND WAS THE BASIS FOR THEIR PLANNING AND APPROVAL OF VISIT.

2. WHEN EMBOFF BROACHED IDEA OF EARLIER ARRIVAL TIME, MINISTRY'S REACTION WAS IMMEDIATE AND NEGATIVE. COAL MINISTRY'S PLANS FOR TEAM CONSIST OF TRAVEL AND VISIT TO DONETSK FROM MONDAY, AUGUST 29 THROUGH FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, WITH WEEKENDS FREE FOR TEAM TO SIGHTSEE IN MOSCOW. EARLIER UNCLASSIFIED

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ARRIVAL TIME WOULD CAUSE PROBLEMS FOR COAL MINISTRY IF IT WERE EXPECTED TO DO ANYTHING FOR STUDY TEAM PRIOR TO MONDAY, AUGUST 29. SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, IS NATIONAL MINERS' DAY, AND EVERYONE WILL BE TIED UP IN PREPARATIONS FOR THAT.

3. WE MAY BE ABLE TO GET THE COAL MINISTRY TO OFFER VISA SUPPORT - WHICH IS ESSENTIAL FOR TEAM'S GETTING VISAS-

FOR EARLIER ARRIVAL DATE, BUT IT COULD ONLY BE ON BASIS OF MINISTRY'S NOT BEING INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES WITH THE TEAM UNTIL AUGUST 29. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT ANY APPROPRIATE ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM COULD BE ARRANGED FOR THIS PERIOD.

4. IN LIGHT OF ALL THESE CONSIDERATIONS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT TEAM MAINTAIN ORIGINAL ARRIVAL DATE OF AUGUST 27 OR AT MOST PUSH IT BACK ONE DAY TO FRIDAY, AUGUST 26. IF OTHER, OVERRIDING CONSIDERATIONS DICTATE AN EARLIER ARRIVAL, EMBASSY IS, OF COURSE, PREPARED TO DISCUSS IT WITH COAL MINISTRY ON BASIS SET FORTH IN PARA 3 ABOVE.

5. COAL MINISTRY HAS SAID IT HAS NO PROBLEM WITH EMBASSY OFFICER GOING WITH THE TEAM. WE PLAN TO HAVE ECONOMIC OFFICER FSO GERRY HAMOLTON DO SO.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: (1) INFORM EMBASSY SOONEST OF ARRIVAL DATE IN MOSCOW FOR MESA STUDY TEAM.
(2) WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION OF OUR ASSUMPTION (REF C) THAT VISIT IS ON SENDING-SIDE-PAYS-BASIS.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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